



Master in International Relations Final Examination Questions

2025/26/2

Main subjects:

1. International Economics
2. International Relations in the Post-Bipolar Era
3. History of International Relations
4. European Union
5. Geopolitics and Theories of International Relations

** In addition to the basic literature indicated in the capsules, you will be required to read all the compulsory and recommended literature indicated in the course outlines.*

1. World Economics

Readings:

Gerber, J. (2022): International Economics. Pearson, 8th Edition, San Diego University, Chapter 1,2, 3,4,5,14,10

Question 2:

Robert Gilpin: Understanding the international economic order. 2001.
https://dl1.cuni.cz/pluginfile.php/264754/mod_resource/content/1/Gilpin_Global%20Political%20Economyz.pdf chapter 11.

Global Goliaths: Multinational Corporations in the 21st Century Economy (Brookings Institution Press, 2021) https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/GG_Ch1_Summary.pdf

Questions:

1. Describe the possible positive and negative effects of globalisation.
2. Describe the state of transnational and multinational companies in the world economy in terms of the internationalisation of companies.
3. Describe the motivations for the emergence of regional economic integration and the possible forms of regional economic integration.
4. Describe the main factors and historical development of international specialisation on the basis of existing models.

2. International Relations in the Post-Bipolar Era

Readings:

Melvyn P. Leffler – Odd Arne Westad: *The Cambridge History of the Cold War – Volume 3: Endings*. 2010, Cambridge.

- pp. 244-288.

- pp. 311-332.

Questions:

1. What were the reasons for the disintegration of the Eastern Bloc and the Soviet Union?
2. How can the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc be described in terms of US foreign policy?
3. Summarise the process of regime change in Eastern Europe and its foreign policy context, with particular reference to the events in Poland and Hungary!
4. What was the role of Mikhail Gorbachev in the regime changes in Eastern Europe and the disintegration of the Soviet Union?

3. History of International Relations

Readings:

David Painter: *The Cold War: An International History (The Making of the Contemporary World)*. Routledge, 1999. ISBN: 9780415153164

Online: *The Cold War (1945-1989)*

https://www.cvce.eu/obj/the_cold_war_1945_1989_full_text-en-6dfe06ed-4790-48a4-8968-855e90593185.html

Questions:

1. Describe the main events and drivers for the development of the bipolar system and the characteristics of the two blocks!
2. Describe the shortcomings of the peace system after the First World War and its effects on later occurrences in world politics!
3. What factors influenced the period of stability in the bipolar system and what were the decisive processes that led to Détente?
4. What were the main conflicts of the Cold War period and the dividing lines behind them?

4. European Union

Nugent, Neill: *The Government and Politics of the European Union*. (8th Edition). Palgrave, 2017.

- Part I; III; V.

Questions:

1. Describe the EU's sui generis political system!
2. What makes the division of power in the EU institutional system unique?
3. What are the specific features of European governance?
4. What challenges does the European Union face today?
5. What are the contemporary theoretical interpretations of the European Union?

5. Geopolitics and Theories of International Relations

Readings:

Tuathail, Darby at al.: *The Geopolitics Reader*. Routledge, London and New York, 2nd Edition, 2003.

Elérhető:

<https://frenndw.files.wordpress.com/2011/03/geopol-the-geopolitics-reader.pdf>

- pp. 15-27.
- pp. 47-57.
- pp. 103-130.
- pp. 1-15.

Questions:

1. Describe the so-called "continental" or German and the Anglo-Saxon thinkers of classical (pre-WWII) geopolitics!
2. Describe the political-ideological narratives of early Cold War geopolitical thinking! What does the "loss of geography" mean?
3. Describe the new concepts of post-Cold War geopolitical studies based on the writings of Fukuyama, Huntington and Luttwak!
4. Describe the main theses of critical geopolitical studies!